



CITY OF BRUNSWICK

1 W. Potomac Street • Brunswick, Maryland 21716 • (301) 834-7500

MAYOR AND COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010, 7:00 P.M.

Ordinance 488—Mandatory Bicycle & Skateboard Helmet Law—Dave Dunn

Draft ordinance attached. Gives brief overview of proposed ordinance. Current Maryland state law only applies to 16 years of age and under. Brunswick Police may only enforce state law by issuing a warning. Staff has asked for grant funds to cover cost of helmets to residents, however, no decision has been received to date.

Ellis Burruss—310 Souder Road—Understands wanting to keep kids safe, but wonders if we're constricting normal childhood play. Doesn't want to discourage activity in children. Must strike a balance between safety and unstructured play. Urges Council to weigh long terms dangers to immediate dangers.

Biser—Would like to see an age limit placed on this ordinance, so adults aren't restricted.

Tome—Leaning towards placing age limit, too.

Stull—Would like to see everyone restricted, so adults set a good example for minors.

Smith—Wasn't in favor of this ordinance at the beginning of discussions, but doesn't see any sense in restricting age limits.

Mayor—One could argue that with maturity comes better decision-making skills.

Ordinance 489—Juvenile Curfew Law—Dave Dunn

Draft ordinance attached. Gives brief overview of proposed ordinance.

Smith—Questions who is responsible for paying fine?

Dave Dunn—Parents are responsible.

Milt Frech, Police Chief—Officers could also refer a child to Juvenile Services.

No public comment.

Mayor—There will be another Public Hearing on this issue on February 9, 2010.

